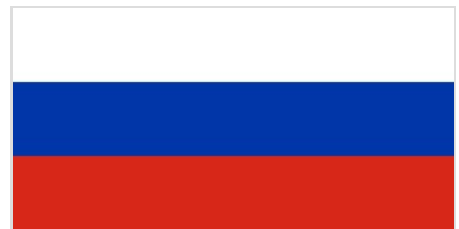




Anti-Russian sentiment

Revision as of 23:07, 12 March 2022 by [Libraryclerk0191](#) ([talk](#) | [contribs](#)) ([→Quotes](#)) ([diff](#)) [← Older revision](#) | [Latest revision](#) ([diff](#)) | [Newer revision](#) [→](#) ([diff](#))

Anti-Russian sentiment (or Russophobia) is a diverse spectrum of negative feelings, dislikes, fears, aversion, derision or prejudice against Russia, Russians or Russian culture. A wide variety of mass culture clichés about Russia and Russians exists in the Western world, many originally developed during the Cold War, and used as elements of political war against the Soviet Union. Russian nationalists and apologists of Russian politics are sometimes criticised for using allegations of "Russophobia" as a form of propaganda to counter any criticism of Russian state policies or practices.



Flag of Russia



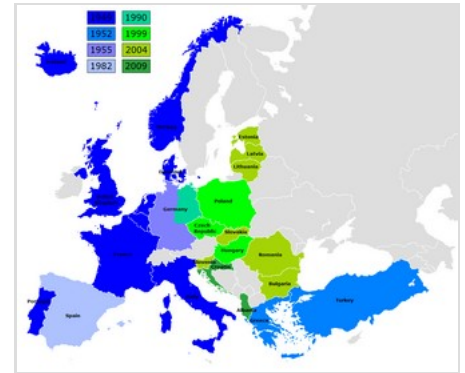
When a country armed to the teeth with nuclear weapons and overwhelmed by its own exceptionalism and indispensability has political and media lunatics equating a bait-click commercial marketing scheme with Pearl Harbor, that country is a recipe for the end of the world. ~ [Paul Craig Roberts](#)

Quotes

Sorted alphabetically by author or source

- In this interview, former National Security Agency Technical Director Bill Binney demonstrates that the most important premise for Russiagate, that Russian military intelligence conducted an internet hack of the DNC and then provided the purloined files to WikiLeaks for publication, is a fraud.
- If the Russians hacked the DNC, the NSA would be able to provide specific and detailed information tracing that attack as to times, dates, places, but no such proof has been provided. Binney created or supervised the NSA programs that provide this capability. Binney has now conducted two independent forensic studies of the DNC files: those released by Guccifer 2.0 and those published by WikiLeaks. Both studies, based on insights gleaned from file metadata and internet transfer speeds, point to the files' having been downloaded to a thumb drive or a storage device rather than transmitted over the internet in a Russian cyber attack.
- Binney's findings support the WikiLeaks account of how the files were delivered to them. Former British Ambassador Craig Murray has stated that he met with someone who was not a Russian state actor at American University in Washington, D.C. and received a thumb drive of files.

- Bill Binney: **Mr. President—Listen to Bill Binney, Russiagate is a Worse Hoax than You Thought, LarouchPAC** (<https://larouchepac.com/20190304/mr-president-listen-bill-binney-russiagate-worse-hoax-you-thought/>) (Video 46 min, 23 secs) (6 March 2019)
- We have to look at the bigger picture here, and realize this is the culmination of a long-standing, neoconservative attempt to reignite the Cold War for a variety of reasons. They want a massive arms buildup. The neoconservative movement really emerged from anti-Russian sentiment in the 1970s... They despise Vladimir Putin... because he is the main leader in the world who is challenging US hegemony... It has to do with NATO expansion, as you mentioned, it has to do with Ukraine. The failure of the US to put a NATO ally on Russia's borders. All sorts of reasons. The failure of the US to enact regime change in Syria because of Russian intervention.... Through H. R. McMaster, they implanted Fiona Hill, who is known simply for being at the Brookings Institute and writing a book-length attack on Vladimir Putin. She's now kind of the in-house Russia expert. ...the US has rejected Russian proposals to sign treaties against meddling in cyber attacks. So, the Cold War continues with total liberal consent.
- Max Blumenthal: **Can Trump's Neocons Exploit Russiagate? February 20, 2018** (<https://thegrayzone.com/2018/02/20/can-trumps-neocons-exploit-russiagate-2-2/>)
- As anti-Russia hysteria spreads, speech taboos harden; any discourse at odds with tightening official political/media consensus brings immediate blowback, smear-mongering, and (where possible) silencing. In this one-dimensional world the recent appearance of Stephen F. Cohen's important book, War with Russia?, comes with special urgency, Cohen being one of the few...to challenge the onslaught of Russophobic narratives churned out relentlessly by the political/media establishment. And he remains virtually alone in going so far as to write about the very real specter of nuclear catastrophe.
- Carl Boggs in **Russophobia and the Specter of War, MintPressNews** (<https://www.mintpressnews.com/russophobia-specter-of-russia-united-states-war/253199/>) (20 December 2018)
- As American political life continues to deteriorate, matters of war and peace rarely merit attention amidst the sound and fury of manufactured news, moral posturing, personal scandals, and tweeting exchanges... Now we have two years of frenzied Russiagate and its attendant neo-McCarthyism.



While Moscow is depicted as an aggressive adversary, NATO surrounds Russia on three sides, has deployed anti-missile systems in Poland, Romania, Spain, Turkey, and the Black Sea, and has a 12 to 1 advantage in military spending. With opposing forces now toe-to-toe, it would not take much to set off a chain reaction that could end in a nuclear exchange... it's finally time to re-think alliances. NATO was a child of the Cold War, when the West believed that the Soviets were a threat... ~Conn Hallinan



Russia is in favor of a multipolar world, a democratic world order, strengthening the system of international law, and for developing a legal system in which any small country, even a very small country, can feel itself secure, as if behind a stone wall. ~Vladimir Putin

That the intensifying hostility directed by one nuclear power toward another might bring the world closer to a war that could end all wars seems bizarrely remote to a political class obsessed with little beyond its own power and wealth, faintly camouflaged by identity politics; the “unthinkable” remains, well, unthinkable.

- Carl Boggs in *Russophobia and the Specter of War*, *MintPressNews* (<https://www.mintpressnews.com/russophobia-specter-of-russia-united-states-war/253199/>) (20 December 2018)
- Despite the well-documented promises made to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev by Secretary of State James Baker (and many others) that the West would not try to expand NATO “one inch eastward,” the Clinton administration embarked on a dual strategy that expanded the alliance eastward and transformed the defensive alliance into what became a staging ground for US interventions in the Balkans, Africa, and the Greater Middle East. One of NATO’s first major post–Cold War missions, the 78-day aerial bombing of Serbia, nearly ended in disaster when NATO Supreme Allied Commander Wesley Clark ordered British General Mike Jackson, commander of NATO’s troops in Kosovo, to retake the airfield in Pristina, the capital, from the Russians—by force if necessary. Jackson refused: “I’m not going to start Third World War for you.” Undeterred by that apocalyptic near-miss, NATO has soldiered on, playing supporting roles in the Bush and Obama administrations’ wars of choice.
- James Carden (<https://www.thenation.com/authors/james-carden/>) *NATO Turns 70 Next week, Washington will throw the military alliance a birthday party. How much is there to celebrate?*, *The Nation* (<https://www.thenation.com/article/nato-turns-70/>) (28 March 2019)
- The policy of NATO expansion is largely responsible for the dangerous deterioration in relations between Russia and the West and lies at the heart of the ongoing Ukraine crisis. Still more, says Nation contributing editor Stephen F. Cohen, a result of “the new Cold War and its rampant Russophobia ...has been the near-end of American diplomacy toward Russia and the almost total militarization of US-Russian relations. This alone is a profound source of insecurity-including the possibility of war with Russia.” The end of the Cold War left NATO purposeless; expansion has made it untenable. ...NATO should address what has gone so wrong over the past three decades by reexamining, its policies of eastward expansion and non-defensive deployment and seriously consider adopting a nuclear “no first use” policy.



War is a racket. It always has been.
~Major General Smedley D. Butler



...Russia is not by any means without faults. But the amount of anti-Russian propaganda in our media today is a throwback to the Cold War era. We must ask the question: Is this leading to more arms, a bigger NATO?...The demonization of Russia is, I believe, one of the most dangerous things that is happening in our world today... It is time for political leaders and each individual to move us back from the brink of catastrophe to begin to build relationships with our Russian brothers and sisters. Too long has the elite financially gained from war while millions are moved into poverty and desperation.
~Mairead Maguire

- James Carden (<https://www.thenation.com/authors/james-carden/>) in *NATO Turns 70 Next week, Washington will throw the military alliance a birthday party. How much is there to celebrate?*, *The Nation* (<https://www.thenation.com/article/nato-turns-70/>) (28 March 2019)
- In the universe of Russian propaganda, Russia is an ideal state of sorts. International criticism of any Russian actions or misbehaviors is often labeled as Russophobic by the Russian officials, or, on lower levels of the Kremlin propaganda machine, by state-run media or even experts on the talk shows they host. “Russophobia” is a manipulative defensive line, often used by Russian propaganda to reduce any criticism of the Russian state to an irrational intolerance towards the Russian people.
 - *Euromaiden Press* “‘Russophobia’ as a Russian propaganda tool”, (1 October 2018) (<http://euromaidanpress.com/2018/10/01/russophobia-as-a-russian-propaganda-tool/>)
- One of the more interesting aspects of the nauseating impeachment trial in the Senate was the repeated vilification of Russia and its President Vladimir Putin. To hate Russia has become dogma on both sides of the political aisle, in part because no politician has really wanted to confront the lesson of the 2016 election, which was that most Americans think that the federal government is basically incompetent and staffed by career politicians like Nancy Pelosi and Mitch McConnell who should return back home and get real jobs. Worse still, it is useless, and much like the one trick pony the only thing it can do is steal money from the taxpayers and waste it on various types of self-gratification that only politicians can appreciate. That means that the United States is engaged in fighting multiple wars against make-believe enemies while the country’s infrastructure rots and a host of officially certified grievance groups control the public space.
 - Philip Giraldi in *Why Both Republicans and Democrats Want Russia to Become the Enemy of Choice* (<https://councilforthenationalinterest.org/?p=5202>), *The Council for the American Interest*] (6 Feb 2020)
- Last week, the *New York Times* reported that the FBI, in 2017, launched an investigation of President Trump “to consider whether the president’s own actions constituted a possible threat to national security” and specifically “whether he had been working on behalf of **Russia** against American interests.” ...As usual – this melodrama was accomplished by steadfastly ignoring the now-standard, **always-buried paragraph pointing out the boring fact that no actual evidence of guilt has yet emerged**.
 - Glenn Greenwald in *The FBI’s Investigation of Trump as a “National Security Threat” is Itself a Serious Danger. But J. Edgar Hoover Pioneered the Tactic, The Intercept*, (<https://theintercept.com/2019/01/14/the-fbis-investigation-of-trump-as-a-national-security-threat-is-itself-a-serious-danger-but-j-edgar-hoover-pioneered-the-tactic/>) (14 January 2019)
- Obviously, if there is reason to suspect that actual crimes have been committed... then it’s not just permissible but vital that the FBI investigate such allegations. That’s why I’ve been a ‘vigorous defender from the start of having a full-scale investigation into those allegations with the evidence publicly disclosed: so that we can know what happened rather than relying on self-serving, evidence-free, anonymous leak snippets laundered through MSNBC and the Washington Post. But the FBI investigation... clearly based, at least in part, on the FBI’s disagreements with Trump’s foreign policy views and the agency’s assessment that such policies fail to safeguard “U.S. interests” as the FBI defines them. The NYT notes that among the events that prompted the investigation were that Trump “refused to criticize **Russia** on the campaign trail...”

- Glenn Greenwald in *The FBI's Investigation of Trump as a "National Security Threat" is Itself a Serious Danger. But J. Edgar Hoover Pioneered the Tactic, The Intercept*, (<https://theintercept.com/2019/01/14/the-fbis-investigation-of-trump-as-a-national-security-threat-is-itself-a-serious-danger-but-j-edgar-hoover-pioneered-the-tactic/>) (14 January 2019)
- The story goes back more than three decades to the fall of the Berlin Wall and eventual reunification of Germany. At the time, the Soviet Union had some 380,000 troops in what was then the German Democratic Republic, or East Germany. Those forces were there as part of the treaty ending World War II, and the Soviets were concerned that removing them could end up threatening the USSR's borders. The Russians have been invaded — at terrible cost — three times in a little more than a century. So in the early 1990s, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, and Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev cut a deal. The Soviets agreed to withdraw troops from Eastern Europe as long as NATO didn't fill the vacuum, or recruit members of the Soviet-dominated Warsaw Pact. Baker promised Gorbachev that NATO would not move "one inch east." The agreement...was followed in practice. NATO stayed west of the Oder and Neisse rivers separating Germany and Poland, and Soviet troops returned to Russia...
President Bill Clinton blew that all up in 1999, when the U.S. and NATO intervened in the civil war between Serbs and Albanians over the Serbian province of Kosovo. Behind the new American doctrine of "responsibility to protect," NATO opened a massive 11-week bombing campaign against Serbia... From Moscow's point of view, the war was unnecessary. The Serbs were willing to withdraw their troops and restore Kosovo's autonomous status. But NATO demanded a large occupation force that would be immune from Serbian law, something the nationalist-minded Serbs would never agree to. It was virtually the same provocative language the Austrian-Hungarian Empire had presented to the Serbs in 1914, language that set off World War I... But NATO didn't stop there....
- Conn Hallinan (<https://fpif.org/authors/conn-hallinan/>), in *It's Time for NATO to Go the Way of the Warsaw Pact, Foreign Policy In Focus* (<https://fpif.org/its-time-for-nato-to-go-the-way-of-the-warsaw-pact/>), (27 July 2018)
- While Moscow is depicted as an aggressive adversary, NATO surrounds Russia on three sides, has deployed anti-missile systems in Poland, Romania, Spain, Turkey, and the Black Sea, and has a 12 to 1 advantage in military spending. With opposing forces now toe-to-toe, it would not take much to set off a chain reaction that could end in a nuclear exchange. Yet instead of inviting a dialogue, the document boasts that the Alliance has "suspended all practical civilian and military cooperation between NATO and Russia."...
The solution seems obvious. First, a return to the 1998 military deployment. While it is unlikely that former members of the Warsaw Pact would drop their NATO membership, a withdrawal of non-national troops from NATO members that border Russia would cool things off. Second, the removal of anti-missile systems that should never have been deployed in the first place. In turn, Russia could remove the middle-range Iskander missiles NATO is complaining about and agree to talks aimed at reducing nuclear stockpiles. But long range, it's finally time to re-think alliances. NATO was a child of the Cold War, when the West believed that the Soviets were a threat. But Russia today is not the Soviet Union, and there's no way Moscow would be stupid enough to attack a superior military force. The old ways of thinking are not only outdated, but also dangerous. It's time NATO went the way of the Warsaw Pact.
- Conn Hallinan (<https://fpif.org/authors/conn-hallinan/>), in *It's Time for NATO to Go the Way of the Warsaw Pact, Foreign Policy In Focus* (<https://fpif.org/its-time-for-nato-to-go-the-way-of-the-warsaw-pact/>), (27 July 2018)

- The *New York Times* released sequel six in the best-selling *Putin-the-Poisoner series* on September 22. The incredibly gifted junior G-men and women in the Times Tower have sleuthed yet another episode of boundless evildoing by the arch-villain Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin. “The editorial board,” we are informed, “is a group of opinion journalists whose views are informed by expertise, research, debate and certain longstanding values.... In this blue state special, they spin the tale of Russian dissident Alexei Navalny poisoned with “a nerve agent developed by the Soviet Union.” Jacobin calls Navalny, who is a right-wing anti-immigrant blogger and YouTube celebrity, “Russia’s Trump.”

From the “established fact” that a poisoning occurred, the rest of the Times editorial is pure conjecture. After the poisoning and spending two days in a Russian hospital, the victim flew off to Germany.... In a chain of custody not revealed, the “colleagues” sent the “evidence” out of Russia to Germany then also to France and Sweden, where it was subsequently “confirmed by laboratories.” “The powerful poison,” we are told is used “against foes of the Russian regime.” Only in the cartoonish mindset of the NYT do the perpetually bungling villains leave such blatant clues to their crimes. The editorial board declares, “many questions remain unanswered and are likely to remain so. Chief among them is whether President Vladimir Putin ordered or approved the attempted assassination.” Later in the editorial, this chief question is answered: “Mr. Putin knows what happened...” but “...he continues to hide behind glaringly phony denials.”

- NYT Releases Sequel of Putin-the-Poisoner: the Incredulous Case of Mr. Navalny, by Roger Harris, *CounterPunch* (<https://www.counterpunch.org/2020/09/29/nyt-releases-sequel-of-putin-the-poisoner-the-incredulous-case-of-mr-n/>), September 29, 2020
- Outside the comic book world that the editorial paints, there are questions not addressed by the *Times*...The nation’s newspaper of record has a long history as a faithful mouthpiece of empire. On spinning the Putin-the-Poisoner tale, the Times has been but one voice in the Russo-phobic chorus of western media. The truth of the Navalny case is hard to ascertain. What is clear is that the “evidence” that the Times touts has not been made public but has been used to bludgeon Russia. Putin is not up for election. But there is something else at stake and that is, as the Times editorial mentions, the possible “cancellation of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline, a gas conduit from Russia to Germany,” which is of vital economic interest to Russia.
- NYT Releases Sequel of Putin-the-Poisoner: the Incredulous Case of Mr. Navalny, by Roger Harris, *CounterPunch* (<https://www.counterpunch.org/2020/09/29/nyt-releases-sequel-of-putin-the-poisoner-the-incredulous-case-of-mr-n/>), September 29, 2020
- One of the deceptive clichés of Western accounts of post World War II history is that NATO was constructed as a defensive arrangement to block the threat of a Soviet attack on Western Europe. This is false. It is true that Western propaganda played up the Soviet menace, but many key U.S. and Western European statesmen recognized that a Soviet invasion was not a real threat. The Soviet Union had been devastated, and while in possession of a large army it was exhausted and needed time for recuperation. The United States was riding high, the war had revitalized its economy, it suffered no war damage, and it had the atomic bomb in its arsenal, which it had displayed to the Soviet Union by killing a quarter of a million Japanese civilians at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Hitting the Soviet Union before it recovered or had atomic weapons was discussed in Washington, even if rejected in favor of “containment,” economic warfare, and other forms of destabilization. NSC 68, dated April 1950, while decrying the great

Soviet menace, explicitly called for a program of destabilization aimed at regime change in that country, finally achieved in 1991...

In reality, NATO, as an aggressive global arm of U.S. and other local affiliated imperialisms, poses a serious threat to global peace and security. It is about to celebrate its 60th anniversary, and while it should have been liquidated back in 1991, it has instead expanded, taking on a new and threatening role traced out in its 1999 Strategic Concept and enjoying a frighteningly malignant growth.

- Edward S. Herman *NATO: the Imperial Pitbull*, *Global Research* (<https://www.globalresearch.ca/nato-the-imperial-pitbull/11989>), (23 January 2009)
- It is enlightening to see how pugnacious the U.S. establishment...has been in dealing with the **Ukraine crisis**. The crisis arguably began when the Yanukovich government rejected an EU bailout program in favor of one offered by Russia. The mainstream media (MSM) have virtually suppressed the fact that the EU proposal was not only less generous than the one offered by Russia, but that, whereas the Russian plan did not preclude further Ukrainian deals with the EU, the EU plan would have required a cut-off of further Russian arrangements. And whereas the Russian deal had no military clauses, that of the EU required that Ukraine affiliate with NATO. Insofar as the MSM dealt with this set of offers, they not only suppressed the exclusionary and militarized character of the EU offer, they tended to view the Russian deal as an improper use of economic leverage, "bludgeoning," but the EU proposal was "constructive and reasonable" (Ed., NYT, November 20, 2014). Double standards seem to be fully internalized within the U.S. establishment. The protests that ensued in Ukraine were surely based in part on real grievances against a corrupt government, but they were also pushed along by right-wing groups and by U.S. and allied encouragement and support that increasingly had an anti-Russian and pro-accelerated regime change flavor.
 - Edward S. Herman in *War is Our Business and Business Looks Good*, *Z Magazine* (<http://zcomm.org/zmagazine/war-is-our-business-and-business-looks-good/>) (28 June 2014)
- There is also every reason to believe that the coup and establishment of a right-wing and anti-Russian government were encouraged and actively supported by U.S. officials.
 - Edward S. Herman in *War is Our Business and Business Looks Good*, *Z Magazine* (<https://zcomm.org/zmagazine/war-is-our-business-and-business-looks-good/>) (28 June 2014)
- Trump's attacks on NATO have been for his own political reasons, that he wants to show his base in the United States that he's going to stand up to the Europeans, he's going to stand up to other nations, he's going to stand up for Americans. He makes a big deal of making sure other people pay for what, you know, they need, and that the United States is not going to support them. But I think it's all show. I think in the White House, in the Oval Office, when the generals and admirals and the weapons systems CEOs are present, that President Trump's attitude is much different. He wants to make sure the United States and NATO are as powerful as possible.

NATO is extremely dangerous, as well, too, because of potential conflict with Russia. As we've expanded up to the Russian border, as we have based our troops around the Russian border, conducted exercises, the Russians have reacted as you would expect a nation to react. And so we are on the brink of war. And this is not the way it should have been, as it was promised with the end of the Cold War.

NATO conducts military operations around the world, now, to include wars that include mass killing and suffering in places like Libya and Afghanistan, and not doing well, not doing well for the world. Not where you can point and say, look, we resolved this conflict, but rather these

conflicts are open-ended with the suffering continual.

- Matthew Hoh *What is NATO Good For?*, *The Real News Network*, (<https://therealnews.com/stories/what-is-nato-good-for>) (8 April 2019)
- The corporate media... and the Democratic Party corporate leadership are... dredging up the demons, the ghosts of the Cold War for partisan political advantage... The military-industrial complex... have their... narrative from the Second World War... an existential threat first the Soviet Union, then the Russia Federation... as a rationale and justification for a massive military budget... justifies aircraft carriers that cost \$13 billion apiece... a trillion dollars being spent on upgrading the American nuclear arsenal...
 - Paul Jay in *Russophobia and the Mueller Investigation*, *The Real News* (<https://therealnews.com/stories/russophobia-and-the-mueller-investigation>) (12 December 2018)
- **As we watch the media today, we are spoon fed more and more propaganda and fear of the unknown, that we should be afraid of the unknown and have full faith that our government is keeping us safe from the unknown.** But by looking at media today, those of us who are old enough will be reminded of the era of Cold War news articles, hysteria of how the Russians would invade and how we should duck and cover under tables in our kitchens for the ensuing nuclear war. Under this mass hysteria all Western governments were convinced that we should join Western allies to fight the unknown evil that lies to the east. Later through my travels in Russia during the height of the Cold War with a peace delegation, we were shocked by the poverty of the country, and questioned how we ever were led to believe that Russia was a force to be afraid of. We talked to the Russian students who were dismayed by their absolute poverty and showed anger against NATO for leading their country into an arms race that they could not win. Many years later, when speaking to young Americans in the US, I was in disbelief about the fear the students had of Russia and their talk of invasion. This is a good example of how the unknown can cause a deep rooted paranoia when manipulated by the right powers.
 - Mairead Maguire in ***Demonization of Russia in a New Cold War Era, Inventing a foe to sell military ambitions is still the most dangerous of games***, *Common Dreams* (<https://www.commondreams.org/views/2018/09/14/demonization-russia-new-cold-war-era>) (14 September 2018)
- Firstly, I must say, that I personally believe that Russia is not by any means without faults. But the amount of anti-Russian propaganda in our media today is a throwback to the Cold War era. We must ask the question: Is this leading to more arms, a bigger NATO? Possibly to challenge large powers in the Middle East and Asia, as we see the US approaching the South China seas, and NATO Naval games taking place in the Black Sea. Missile compounds are being erected in Romania, Poland and other ex-Soviet countries, while military games are set up in Scandinavia close to the Russian border to practice for a cold climate war scenario. At the same time, we see the US President arriving in Europe asking for increased military spending. At the same time the USA has increased its budget by 300 billion in one year. The demonization of Russia is, I believe, one of the most dangerous things that is happening in our world today. The scapegoating of Russia is an inexcusable game that the West is indulging in. It is time for political leaders and each individual to move us back from the brink of catastrophe to begin to build relationships with our Russian brothers and sisters. Too long has the elite financially gained from war while millions are moved into poverty and desperation.
 - Mairead Maguire in ***Demonization of Russia in a New Cold War Era, Inventing a foe to sell military ambitions is still the most dangerous of games***, *Common Dreams* (<https://www.com>

mondreams.org/views/2018/09/14/demonization-russia-new-cold-war-era) (14 September 2018)

- Trump had been calling for better relations with Russia during his presidential campaign... For those interested in evidence — or the lack of it— regarding collusion between Russia and the presidential campaign of Donald Trump, we can thank the usual Russia-gate promoters at The New York Times and CNN for inadvertently filling in some gaps in recent days....NYT readers had to get down to paragraph 9 to read: “No evidence has emerged...”
 - Ray McGovern in *Ray McGovern: Russia-gate Evidence, Please*, (<https://consortiumnews.com/2019/01/15/russia-gate-evidence-please/>) (15 January 2019)
- There has always been an element in U.S. politics that questioned American internationalism in general and the U.S. role in European defense in particular. Those views gained new traction after the collapse of the Soviet Union. NATO's future role and its relevance was hotly debated during the Clinton administration. Ultimately, Washington pushed to expand the organization eastward, offering membership to the newly independent, former satellite states of the Soviet bloc. In doing so, it fundamentally transformed the organization, in Russian eyes, from a purely defensive one to a more aggressive one, infringing on a region that Moscow had long believed was critical to its own security and obligating itself to the defense and independence of countries that historically had often, albeit unwillingly, accommodated Russian interests.

In expanding eastward, NATO accepted new obligations that were not central to its own security at a time when the Russian domination of Western Europe was no longer a viable threat while, at the same time, ensuring that its new commitments would be a source of perpetual conflict with Russia.

 - Joseph V. Micallef (<https://www.military.com/author/joseph-v-micallef>) in *NATO on Its 70th Anniversary: A Birthday Party or a Wake? Military.com*, (<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/04/22/nato-its-70th-anniversary-birthday-party-or-wake.html>) (22 Apr 2019)
- There has always been an element in U.S. politics that questioned American internationalism in general and the U.S. role in European defense in particular. Those views gained new traction after the collapse of the Soviet Union. NATO's future role and its relevance was hotly debated during the Clinton administration.

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 - Joseph V. Micallef (<https://www.military.com/author/joseph-v-micallef>) in *NATO on Its 70th Anniversary: A Birthday Party or a Wake? Military.com*, (<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/04/22/nato-its-70th-anniversary-birthday-party-or-wake.html>) (22 Apr 2019)
- Contrary to...[the] recent assertion that the escalating crisis between the U.S. and Russia “all began...in Yalta in September 2013,” ...we actually need to go back... to the May 2012 Bilderberg... Daniel Estulin, the foremost (non-member) expert on Bilderberg, reported in June

2012 that the “top headache” for the Bilderberg participants at that May 2012 meeting was Russian President Vladimir Putin because of his “opposition to war in Syria and Iran,” his “belligerence with respect to U.S. bases encircling Russia,” his “insistence on maintaining state sovereignty intact,” and his plans for another natural gas pipeline to Europe... that “could turn into a major victory for Russia” at the expense of competing plans... backed by Bilderberg members...

Estulin noted a Bilderberg “campaign to delegitimize Putin,” financed by “some very angry and powerful Anglo-American elites.” Present at that 2012 conclave were top executives from Royal Dutch Shell (CEO Peter Voser and Chair Jorma Ollila) and BP (CEO Robert Dudley). Also present was then-Massachusetts Senator John Kerry, now U.S. Secretary of State.

Interestingly, Daniel Estulin further reported that at the May 2012 Bilderberg meeting, “...**one European Bilderberger openly admitted [that] ‘Putin is by far the most formidable opponent in the world stage to our plans.’ What makes [the] Bilderberg position that much more difficult is Putin’s moral position in ‘protecting and promoting its [Russia’s] national interest’.**” In other words, Putin had done nothing wrong, and the Bilderberg participants knew it. But he is in the way of “our plans,” whatever those may be.

- Joyce Nelson (<https://www.counterpunch.org/author/dr4pudug/>) in ***Bilderberg vs. Putin***, *CounterPunch* (<https://www.counterpunch.org/2014/12/10/bilderberg-vs-putin/>) (10 December 2010)
- The past year and a half of Russophobia have been driven by the “bitter clingers” of Hillary’s failed national political ambitions, the military-industrial complex, corporate interests, corporate media, the Washington/New York/Hollywood commentariat, and foreign lobbyists. Too many of them profit from an endless state of war—throughout the world and, in particular, with Russia. Washington and its clients are terrified that the war gravy train will be slowed or stopped. Our NATO clients are afraid of carrying their own national defense burdens. Washington neocons are perfectly willing to continue to waste the lives of our devoted military to protect both their funding and a world order that the West’s victory in the Cold War has rendered moot.
 - George D. O’Neill Jr in ***For Peace With Putin, End America’s Pointless Wars***, *The American Conservative* (<https://www.theamericanconservative.com/articles/for-peace-with-putin-end-americas-pointless-wars/>) (9 July 2018)
- In her 29-year career in the Army and Army Reserves, Colonel Ann Wright served at the NATO subcommand Allied Forces Central Europe, and later as a diplomat in various posts around the world, but resigned from the U.S. government in protest of George W. Bush’s war on Iraq. She agrees...that NATO is an impediment to peace in Europe. Colonel Ann Wright: I think it’s the military industrial complex that needs more weapons sales, and the Russians have always been the bogeyman for the United States from the Cold War period. And even though we had 20 years of peace and tranquility with the Russians, now they are being vilified again. Not to say that it’s—you know, there are some things they’ve done I don’t care for at all. But the the fact that now they are the enemy, and the increase in the number of weapons all the countries are manufacturing and selling, is big business.
 - RealNews Network *What is NATO Good For?*, *The Real News Network*, (<https://therealnews.com/stories/what-is-nato-good-for>) (8 April 2019)
- When a country armed to the teeth with nuclear weapons and overwhelmed by its own exceptionalism and indispensability has political and media lunatics equating a bait-click commercial marketing scheme with Pearl Harbor, that country is a recipe for the end of the

world.

- Paul Craig Roberts in ***Russiaphobia Is Out of Control***, *Foreign Policy Journal* (<https://www.foreignpolicyjournal.com/2018/02/22/russiaphobia-is-out-of-control/>) (22 Feb 2018)
- If there is a threat to national and global security today, and a threat to free speech and independent media, it is not coming from Putin or the Kremlin – but rather from the United States. And until the American left gathers itself and stops listening to the warmongering pundits and establishment journalists parroting the Washington narrative, we have nothing but a bleak future in front of us with regards to the relation between the two old nemesis nuclear superpowers.
 - Jonathan Sigrist in *Russigate and the Neo McCarthyite War on Alternative Media and Political Dissent*, Global Research, (<https://www.globalresearch.ca/russigate-and-the-neo-mccarthyite-war-on-alternative-media-and-political-dissent/5630547>) (28 February 2018)
- Throughout the day before the summit in Helsinki, the lead story on the New York Times home page stayed the same: “Just by Meeting With Trump, Putin Comes Out Ahead.” (<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/15/world/europe/trump-putin-helsinki-summit.html>) ... The Washington Post...editorialized that Russia’s President Vladimir Putin is “an implacably hostile foreign adversary.” ...Contempt for diplomacy with Russia is now extreme...
 - Norman Solomon in ***...Hostile Propaganda: Contempt for diplomacy with Russia is now extreme***, *Common Dreams* (<https://www.commondreams.org/views/2018/07/16/climb-down-summit-hostile-propagandaClimb>) (16 July 2018)
- A bellicose stance toward Russia has become so routine and widespread that we might not give it a second thought... **Often the biggest lies involve what remains unsaid. For instance, U.S. media rarely mention such key matters as the promise-breaking huge expansion of NATO to Russia’s borders since the fall of the Berlin Wall... or the more than 800 U.S. military bases overseas -- in contrast to Russia’s nine...** We need a major shift in the U.S. approach toward Russia...The lives -- and even existence -- of future generations are at stake in the relationship between Washington and Moscow... The incessant drumbeat is in sync with what Martin Luther King Jr. called “the madness of militarism”.
 - Norman Solomon in ***...Hostile Propaganda: Contempt for diplomacy with Russia is now extreme***, *Common Dreams* (<https://www.commondreams.org/views/2018/07/16/climb-down-summit-hostile-propagandaClimb>) (16 July 2018)
- When Nancy Pelosi and Mitch McConnell teamed up to invite NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg to address a joint session of Congress, they had every reason to expect the April 3 speech to be a big hit with U.S. media and political elites... NATO’s continual expansion -- all the way to Russia’s borders -- has significantly increased the chances that the world’s two nuclear superpowers will get into direct military conflict. McCain conveyed the common



Huge reverence for NATO is matched by how dangerous NATO has become. NATO’s continual expansion -- all the way to Russia’s borders -- has significantly increased the chances that the world’s two nuclear superpowers will get into direct military conflict. But in the United States, when anyone challenges the continued expansion of NATO, innuendos or outright smears are likely.

~Norman Solomon

madness of reverence for NATO -- and the common intolerance for anything that might approach a rational debate on whether it's a good idea to keep expanding an American-led military alliance to, in effect, push Russia into a corner. Doing so is understandably viewed from Russia as a dire threat... Ever since the fall of the Berlin Wall -- and the quickly broken promises by the U.S. government in 1990 that NATO would move "not one inch eastward" -- NATO has been closing in on Russia's borders...

- Norman Solomon in *Pelosi and McConnell: Cranking Up Bipartisan Madness for NATO, Consortium News* (<https://consortiumnews.com/2019/03/31/pelosi-and-mcconnell-crank-up-nato-madness/>) (31 March 2019)
- While many Democratic politicians and U.S. media outlets have portrayed Trump as soft on Russia and uncommitted to Western militarism, such claims don't hold up to facts. Trump and his top deputies have repeatedly affirmed a commitment to NATO, while his overall policies (if not always his rhetoric) have been dangerously bellicose toward Russia.
 - Norman Solomon in *Pelosi and McConnell: Cranking Up Bipartisan Madness for NATO, Consortium News* (<https://consortiumnews.com/2019/03/31/pelosi-and-mcconnell-crank-up-nato-madness/>) (31 March 2019)
- Henry Kissinger, Zbigniew Brzezinski, [historian] Richard Pipes and many other American politicians... are frozen... with unchanging blindness and stubbornness they keep repeating... this theory about the supposed age-old aggressiveness of Russia, without taking into consideration today's reality.
 - Interview (https://www.forbes.com/2008/08/05/solzhenitsyn-forbes-interview-oped-cx_pm_0804russia.html) with Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, *Forbes magazine* (May 1994)
- In the West today, supporting engagement with Moscow cannot be discussed openly without inspiring immediate hysteria. But we should try to understand the historical background to the tensions between Russia and the West before they spiral out of control... Once we do that, and start treating Russia with the respect and dignity it deserves, we may reach the real peace that we have failed to achieve since the end of the first Cold War.
 - Tom Switzer in *Russiaphobia and the Perils of a New Cold War, Australia Institute of International Affairs* (<http://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/australianoutlook/russiaphobia-perils-new-cold-war/>) (18 April 2018)
- From Washington and Canberra to London and Brussels, western leaders have indulged in the rhetoric of moral indignation, punished Moscow with economic sanctions and treated Vladimir Putin as a pariah... Since the collapse of Soviet Communism, the western nations have rubbed Russia's nose in its Cold War defeat and failed to take into account its strategic sensibilities. A decade ago, in 2008, Paul Keating warned "Russia is the only country in the world with the capacity to massively damage the United States to the point of seriously maiming it. And ditto for Western Europe." He asked "Wouldn't you think that when the Russians surrendered their empire in 1990, US policy would have been adept enough to find an intelligent place for them in the overall strategic fabric?" Instead, Washington "ring-fenced Russia, treating it as a virtual enemy, with its western European and central European clients egging it on."
 - Tom Switzer in *Russiaphobia and the Perils of a New Cold War, Australia Institute of International Affairs* (<http://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/australianoutlook/russiaphobia-perils-new-cold-war/>) (18 April 2018)

- Liberal Russophobia has become a powerful force responsible for deterioration of U.S.-Russia relations. The coalition of liberal Russophobes include those in Congress, media and think tanks who believe that Russia aims to destroy the U.S.-centered “liberal” international order and that President Donald Trump’s attempts to negotiate with the Kremlin do more harm than good. Those sharing these views also... want to take away from the president the prerogative of conducting relations with Russia.
- Andrei P. Tsygankov in *Playing the Russophobia card, The Washington Times* (<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/dec/12/important-us-russia-dialogue-takes-a-hit-in-the-cu/>) (12 December 2018)
- We find troubling... NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg’s statement... that NATO members will agree to “further enhance NATO’s military presence in the eastern part of the alliance,” adding... its “biggest reinforcement since the Cold War.” The likelihood of a military clash in the air or at sea – accidental or intentional – has grown sharply, the more so since, as we explain below, President Obama’s control over top U.S./NATO generals, some of whom like to play cowboy, is tenuous. Accordingly we encourage you, as we did before the last NATO summit, to urge your NATO colleagues to bring a “degree of judicious skepticism” to the table at Warsaw – especially with regard to the perceived threat from Russia.
Many of us have spent decades studying Moscow’s foreign policy. We shake our heads in disbelief when we see Western leaders seemingly oblivious to what it means to the Russians to witness exercises on a scale not seen since Hitler’s armies launched “Unternehmen Barbarossa” 75 years ago, leaving 25 million Soviet citizens dead. In our view, it is irresponsibly foolish to believe that Russian President Vladimir Putin will not take countermeasures... Putin does not have the option of trying to reassure his generals that what they hear and see from NATO is mere rhetoric and posturing... In sum, Russia is bound to react strongly to what it regards as the unwarranted provocation of large military exercises along its western borders, including in Ukraine.
- Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity (VIPS) **Merkel Urged to Temper NATO’s Belligerence, Open Letter from VIPS, Consortium News** (<https://consortiumnews.com/2016/07/06/merkel-urged-to-temper-natos-belligerence/>) (6 July 2016)
- NATO turns 70 in 2019 and will celebrate its anniversary on 4th April 2019 in Washington DC... NATO is obsolete, it belongs in the dustbin of history! NATO claims to strive for collective defence and for the preservation of peace and security. But, NATO has never been such a system. It is the largest military alliance in the world with the largest military spending and nuclear stockpiles. It is both the main driver for a new arms race and the main obstacle to a nuclear weapons-free world. Since the end of the Cold War, NATO has been transformed into a global alliance structured to wage “out of area” wars in Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, as well as to “contain” China. Having military troops at the Russian border, new nuclear weapons and a missile defence shield, it is a key driver for confrontation with Russia and a perpetrator of the corrosive “enemy” narrative.
- World Beyond War *Call for Actions on NATO Summit 2019, No to War — No to NATO*, (<http://worldbeyondwar.org/call-for-actions-on-nato-summit-2019/>) (15 March 2019)

Killing Hope: US Military and CIA Interventions Since World War II by William Blum (2003)

Full text online (https://www.cia.gov/library/abbottabad-compound/13/130AEF1531746AAD6AC03EF59F91E1A1_Killing_Hope_Blum_William.pdf)

- We in the West are never allowed to forget the political shortcomings (real and bogus) of the Soviet Union; at the same time we are never reminded of the history which lies behind it. The anti-communist propaganda campaign began even earlier than the military intervention. Before the year 1918 was over, expressions in the vein of "Red Peril", "the Bolshevik assault on civilization", and "menace to world by Reds is seen" had become commonplace in the pages of the New York Times... Historian Frederick Lewis Schuman has written: "The net result of these hearings... was to picture Soviet Russia as a kind of bedlam inhabited by abject slaves completely at the mercy of an organization of homicidal maniacs whose purpose was to destroy all traces of civilization and carry the nation back to barbarism."
- Literally no story about the Bolsheviks was too contrived, too bizarre, too grotesque, or too perverted to be printed and widely believed—from women being nationalized to babies being eaten (as the early pagans believed the Christians guilty of devouring their children; the same was believed of the Hews in the Middle Ages). The story about women with all the lurid connotations of state property, compulsory marriage, "free love", etc. "was broadcasted over the country through a thousand channels," wrote Schuman, "and perhaps did more than anything else to stamp the Russian Communists in the minds of most American citizens as criminal perverts". This tale continued to receive great currency even after the State Department was obliged to announce that it was a fraud. (That the Soviets eat their babies was still being taught by the John Birch Society to its large audience at least as late as 1978.)
- This, then, was the American people's first experience of a new social phenomenon that had come upon the world, their introductory education about the Soviet Union and this thing called "communism". The students have never recovered from the lesson. Neither has the Soviet Union.
- The fiercely-held conviction inevitably produced by this insidious assault upon the intellect is that a great damnation has been unleashed upon the world, possibly by the devil himself, but in the form of people; people not motivated by the same needs, feats, emotions, and personal morality that govern others of the species, but people engaged in an extremely clever, monolithic, international conspiracy dedicated to taking over the world and enslaving it; for reasons not always clear.
- By the end of the Second World War, every American past the age of 40 had been subjected to some 25 years of anti-communist radiation, the average incubation period needed to produce a malignancy. Anti-communism had developed a life of its own.
- Washington policy makers and diplomats saw the world out there as one composed of "communists" and "anti-communists", whether of nations, movements or individuals. This comic-strip vision of the world, with righteous American supermen fighting communist evil everywhere, had graduated from a cynical propaganda exercise to a moral imperative of US foreign policy.
- Even the concept of "non-communist", implying some measure of neutrality, has generally been accorded scant legitimacy in this paradigm. John Foster Dulles, one of the major architects of post-war US foreign policy, expressed this succinctly in his typically simple, moralistic way: "For us there are two sorts of people in the world: there are those who are Christians and support free enterprise and there are the others." As several of the case studies in the present book confirm, Dulles put that creed into rigid practice.

- The word "communist" (as well as "Marxist") has been so overused and so abused by American leaders and the media as to render it virtually meaningless. (The Left has done the same to the word "fascist".)
- Much propaganda mileage has been squeezed out of the Soviet-German treaty of 1939, made possible only by entirely ignoring the fact that the Russians were forced into the pact by the repeated refusal of the Western powers, particularly the United States and Great Britain, to unite with Moscow in a stand against Hitler; as they likewise refused to come to the aid of the socialist-oriented Spanish government under siege by the German, Italian and Spanish fascists... Stalin realized that if the West wouldn't save Spain, they certainly wouldn't save the Soviet Union.
- From the Red Scare of the 1920s to the McCarthyism of the 1950s to the Reagan Crusade against the Evil Empire of the 1980s, the American people have been subjected to a relentless anti-communist indoctrination. It is imbibed with their mother's milk, pictured in their comic books, spelled out in their school books; their daily paper offers them headlines that tell them all they need to know; ministers find sermons in it, politicians are elected with it, and Reader's Digest becomes rich on it.
- Moreover, any appearance or claim by these people to be rational human beings seeking a better kind of world or society is a sham, a cover-up, to delude others, and proof only of their cleverness; the repression and cruelties which have taken place in the Soviet Union are forever proof of the bankruptcy of virtue and the evil intentions of these people in whichever country they may be found, under whatever name they may call themselves: and, most important of all, the only choice open to anyone in the United States is between the American Way of Life and the Soviet Way of Life, that nothing lies between or beyond these two ways of making the world.

See Also

- NATO
- Nineteen Eighty-Four
- Oligarchy
- Propaganda
- Russia
- Vladimir Putin

External links

-  Encyclopedic article on Anti-Russian sentiment on Wikipedia

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